

OLDHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONCERN

Consider Recognizing the Following Outstanding Individuals

DISCUSSION

Ignite Passion Award

The Ignite Passion Award recognizes individuals or groups that have demonstrated exceptional commitment and efforts in fostering passion and enthusiasm within Oldham County Schools. As noted last month, recipients of the Ignite Passion Award are not merely achievers; they are catalysts for positive change, transforming the atmosphere and culture within their school or within the school district. These individuals or groups possess a unique ability to ignite the flames of inspiration within students, staff, families, or the community, encouraging others to pursue excellence and embrace their own passions.

Goshen Elementary's Ignite Passion Award winner is Mandi Morris, Instructional Coach.

Since joining Goshen Elementary last school year, Ms. Morris has been a spark for positive change throughout the school. Her meticulous approach to instructional support includes weekly meetings with every PLC team, where she guides teachers through comprehensive analysis of student assessment data, curriculum alignment, high-quality instructional resources (HQIR), unit internalization, and iReady universal screener data to establish flexible instructional groups and identify prerequisite skills.

Ms. Morris stands out for her remarkable ability to anticipate needs before anyone even mentions them—and her wholehearted dedication to fulfilling them. She designs thoughtful, goal-oriented coaching cycles differentiated to each teacher's individual needs, providing intentional instructional strategies that empower educators across all grade levels. This personalized approach has made a profound impact—our spring STODUR data revealed overwhelmingly positive feedback from staff, with teachers expressing gratitude for her exceptional level of support, extensive knowledge, and invaluable guidance.

Ms. Morris has been a pivotal member of Goshen's leadership team, and eager to help transitions for the new principal, Ms. Byrka. She has been instrumental in bridging where Goshen has been with where they aspire to be, helping align goals, vision, and mission. Her expertise and collaborative spirit have guided Goshen school in the right direction, ensuring that every student experiences a learning environment where they feel safe, valued, and loved.

Ms. Morris doesn't simply achieve—she ignites passion in others, transforms the educational atmosphere, and elevates the entire school community.

South Oldham Middle School - Glen and Monique McFarland

South Oldham Middle is proud to recognize Glen and Monique McFarland for their outstanding service to the school. They are dedicated, hard-working individuals who continually look for ways to support and enhance the experience of SOMS' student-athletes.

Glen and Monique are deeply involved in every aspect of SOMS athletics. They've made significant improvements to programs and facilities, including upgrading the gym sound system, purchasing new uniforms for several teams, and adding new backdrops and signage to create a more professional and welcoming gym environment.

They go above and beyond to create a true game-day experience for SOMS students, families, and community—organizing food vendors for football games and running top-notch concessions at volleyball and basketball events. Their organization, initiative, and positive relationships with parents help ensure that every event runs smoothly and reflects immense pride SOMS Athletics.

South Oldham Middle is incredibly grateful for their commitment, leadership, and the many ways they continue to serve the school.

Congratulations to these exceptional team members of our district.

National Merit Semifinalists

Each year, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation honors students across the nation whose scores are the highest in the PSAT/NMSQT test taken in the fall of their junior year. This year, eight students from Oldham County Schools have been named National Merit Semifinalists.

Approximately one-third of the national high scorers on the PSAT/NMSQT, are notified that they have qualified as semifinalists. Semifinalists advance to finalist standing in the scholarship competition by meeting high academic standards, as well as demonstrating community involvement, strong work ethic, and extracurricular pursuits. Additionally, the student must be recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT scores that align with their earlier performance on the qualifying test. Finalists will be announced in the spring.

NOHS

Samuel Gurevich
Alexandra Kachalova
Camden Killian
Oliver Tang
Kathleen Zhao

OCHS

Mitchell Marcum (attend Gatton Academy)

SOHS

Owen Wells
Kara Loechle

National Principals Month

Each October, National Principals Month recognizes the essential role that principals play in making a school excellent. Principals set the academic tone for their schools, and it is their vision, dedication, and determination that provide the mobilizing force for achieving student

success. Our principals are the bedrock of our educational community. They are not only administrators but also mentors, advocates, and champions of our educational mission. They work tirelessly to create a positive school culture and bring our community together.

During National Principals Month, we ask our entire community to join us in showing appreciation for the dedication and hard work of our principals. We are grateful for their unwavering commitment to our students' well-being and academic achievement. Thank you.

RECOMMENDATION

Recognize these individuals for their outstanding accomplishment!